Speed of the Toboggan.

A time test was made January 5 on the Ridgefield slide near Albany, N.Y. The slide was clear of snow and the bed smooth and clean. From the top of the slide to the bridge, a distance of 240 feet the time was 4½ seconds. This is at the rate of a mile in 1 minute 39 seconds, but this speed is maintained only down the slide and falls off at once on the level. During the past week Mr. W. O. Eachwege, captain of the Nassau Tobogganing Club, has supervised a series of trials on the huge slide at Washington Park, Brooklyn, and with everything in perfect order, the fastest time made down the 200 feet of platform was 4 seconds—not quite as fast as the Ridgefield trial. The fastest time made over the 660 feet of the Washington park slide and runaway has been 10 seconds, which would be at the rate of a mile in 2 minutes 8 seconds. And yet, with these and similar facts within easy reach, fools and liars continue to prate about 1,400 feet in 12 seconds at Orange; a mile in 30 seconds at Tuxedo and three miles in a minute on the "expert" toboggan.—Spirit of the Times.

Counterfeit $2 Bills.

A new counterfeit $2 Dominion of Canada note has made its appearance in Ontario, and it is evidently being extensively "shoved." It is a very dangerous counterfeit, and persons are liable to be deceived by it, as it is fairly well engraved. It is dated June 1st, 1878, check letter B, and is payable at Montreal. Its general appearance is good, although on comparing it with the genuine note the engraving of the counterfeit will be found to be coarser, particularly the back of the note, which is also poorly printed. The letter "E" in the word "Finance," in title "For Minister of Finance," is a little larger than the other letters, while in the genuine they are all of a size. Similarly in the counterfeit the letters "Bri" in the word British are out of alignment. The paper used in counterfeit has a yellowish tinge, while that of the genuine is a clear white. The numbering (in blue ink) is equal to or better than the genuine, and the counterfeits already detected bear different numbers.

How the Boys in Blue Did It.

Perhaps one of the best evidence of the different character of the fighting which took place between the Northern and Southern armies in America and that which occurred in France is to be found in the fact that the Franco-German battles were essentially artillery combats, and that, with the exception of one or two of the earlier battles, such as Spicheron and Gravelelotte, the opposing forces never came to close quarters at all. I have often thought that if the German armies had found themselves confronted with the comparatively raw and untrained levies of the American rebellion they would have discovered that there is another art of war altogether from that in which they have perfected themselves—of which they have yet had no experience—and which consists in an invincible determination to get at close quarters with the enemy as quickly as possible, and, if necessary, to die there rather than come away.—Blackwood's Magazine.

Comparative Bank Statement.

An extra of the Canada Gazette gives the bank statements for the past month. The total liabilities are $150,518,455, as against $147,440,253 for the same period in the year previous. The assets are $231,300,483, as against $227,863,547. Deposits on demand here decreased by $1,400,000, and deposits after notice have increased $2,250,000, and circulation to the same figure. There is a decrease of about $2,000,000 in Dominion and Povincial deposits, and loans to Provincial Governments have increased by $300,000. Current loans and discounts have increased $12,000,000, and overdue debts secured and unsecured have decreased over $1,000,000, a very unsatisfactory feature. The amount to the credit of depositors in the Post-office Savings Bank at the end of December was $18,025,203, against $15,802,815, an increase of $2,222,390.

Money in the Scott Act.

Some time ago Perry Eli, who kept a "Club House" in Walkerton, was fined for selling liquor, contrary to the provision of the Scott Act. Mr. Robert on, on his behalf, got out a writ of certiorari to quash the conviction, on the ground of insufficiency of evidence. The matter came before Judge O'Connor not long since, and was quashed, with costs against the prosecutor, Constable Heifernan. The latter tried to carry it to the full court, but found there was no appeal in such matters, from the decision of the Judge. Heffernan will therefore have to pay the costs, which will certainly be heavy, in the neighborhood of five or six hundred dollars. There's money in the Scott Act evidently, for somebody. In the meantime, the Club House has disappeared from amongst the social institutions of Walkerton.—Bruce Herald.

Fat for the Children.

One point is well brought out—the necessity that exists for fat, in some form, as an element of diet, especially in children. "Butter should never be spared. The father or mother (who can afford it) who does not allow their children a sufficiency of butter deserves to pay the surgeon's bill of a later day for operations on joints, and scrofulous glands, to say nothing of bills for marasmus, tabes mesenteric, hydrocephalus and phthisis (consumption), together with the bills for the board and lodging at seaside health resorts. There is such a thing as 'penny wise and pound foolish,' and this is a case in point." Nothing could be better than this advice, although the grammar of the matter might be improved. The advice may be rather commonplace, but it is good.—Book Review.

He Took a Pony.

The family of a well known anti-saloonist were gathered around a suburban supper table one evening recently, when little Tommy suddenly remarked:

"Say, do folks eat horses?"

"In Paris they do, my dear," said his mother.

"Well, I guess they do in Boston, too," Tommy went on. "Pa does, anyway."

"What do you mean, Thomas?" asked his father, sternly.

"Well," said Tommy, "I heard you tell Uncle Charlie that you took a pony with your coffee every day at your dinner at Young's and it braced you up lots for the cause!"—Boston Record.

Very Considerate Indeed

Here is a good Irish story—we fancy it has not been heard before: A pair of "victims" are waiting behind a hedge for their landlord—guns loaded, cocked and ready for action. It is past the time at which he was expected to go by. Still they wait, and wait, until at last they become uneasy. "Bedad, Pat," says Tim, "I hope nothin' has happened to the poor ould gintleman!"—Whitehall Review.

What the Scott Act has Done.

London Free Press.

"It has been the parent of lying and hypocrisy, of perjury and of law-breaking, such as this country had not before any idea of. It has not put an end to drinking, but has been the means of setting up hundreds of unlicensed 'dives,' where the worst liquor is sold, the most reprehensible practices permitted and encouraged."

A Canadian With Stanley.

Dr. Rolph Lesalle, son of Joseph Lesalle, formerly postmaster of Toronto, has been appointed on the staff of Henry M. Stanley, commander of the expedition to Central Africa for the relief of Emin Bey. Dr. Lesalle has been through the Congo country and has had experience in Egypt.

NEWS ITEMS.

Two Germans have been arrested in France for trying to get possession of one of the new army repeating rifles.

Edward Meek, barrister, has entered an action for libel against the Globe, claiming $10,000 damages for calling him "Briber Meek," etc

Wm. Glassey, 17 years of age was arrested in St. Thomas on the charge of impersonating his father at the Provincial election.

Sir Michael Morris, at present Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, Ireland, has been appointed Lord Chief Justice of Ireland.

It is stated that two hundred miles additional of the Hudson's Bay railway will be completed by next fall if the Manitoba Legislature make the provincial guarantee satisfactory to English capitalists.

Judgment was given at Osgoode hall yesterday refusing the motion for a mandamus to compel Judge Benson to hold a re-count of the votes cast at the recent Provincial election in West Durham.

John Hinton, a milk dealer in Toronto, and his wife, were each sentenced last week to one year's imprisonment for atrocious ill-treatment of the male prisoner's nine-year-old daughter by his first wife.

Valuable water privileges, estimated to be capable of furnishing half a million horse-power, have been secured at the Livres Basin, near Buckingham, Quebec, by a syndicate of American capitalists.

The death is announced of Mr. J. J. Upchurch, founder of the Ancient Order of United Workmen which, from a very small beginning, has assumed vast proportions. He died at Steeleville, Mo., at the age of 67.

It is said the Duke of Leinster, who has already made arrangements for selling the bulk of his property in Ireland to his tenants, has offered for sale the manor of Maynooth, which has been in his family almost ever since the Conquest.

A Cornwall man wrote a burlesque on the 10 cent novel, calling it "Hildebrand the Horrible, or the Haunted Pig-sty," and sent it to a sensational publisher as a rebuke. It was accepted with thanks, paid for and the writer asked to furnish a second story.

The oldest elector who voted on December 28 was Duncan MacIntosh, of lot No. 36, second concession of Lancaster, in the County of Glengarry. He will be ninety-nine years of age in March next. He has never cast a Tory vote, and as usual his ballot was marked for the Reform candidate.

Sir Andrew Clarke declares that one-half of the population of London is permanently ill. His definition of health is: That state in which the body is not conscious by present to us; that state in which work is easy and duty not over a great trial; the state in which it is a joy to see, to think, to feel and to be.

According to Professor Bonafoux, a powder composed of equal parts of colophony, carbon and gum arabic, is capable of so arresting the bleeding of large arteries as to prove decidedly serviceable in important surgical operations. In the prevention of consecutive hemorrage it also proves entirely satisfactory. The application can be lifted in the course of two or three days.

Through admiring Mr. Moody and appreciating his work the Methodist ministers of Chicago have voted down a resolution that he should be invited to conduct a revival under their auspices. The clergymen endorsed the position taken by the Presiding Elder, who said: "Every Methodist minister is and should be capable of the best kind of evangelistic work and we don't need outside help."

Toronto World: Some people think the Mail independent and some think it not. The World's thought is that it is as independent as the famous hog who found himself on a particularly slippery piece of ice and said to himself, said he: "Any way I am perfectly independent. If I cannot stand up I can lie down" At this particular crisis in the affairs of men and hogs the esteemed Mail is lying—down.

Dr. Brown-Sequard is quoted as saying that one has only to harden the neck and feet and destroy their sensitiveness to prevent taking cold. This is done by daily blowing a stream of cold air, by means of an elastic bag, upon the neck, and by immersing the feet in cold water. The air is at first only slightly cool, but is each day made colder, until the neck can stand an arctic blast with impunity. The feet are immersed in water at first at a temperature of about ninety degrees, and this is gradually reduced to thirty-eight degrees

"WIDE AWAKE" FOR JANUARY, 1887.—The frontispiece of the New Year's Wide Awake, "The Pigeon-Tower of Grandval," will at once attract readers to the very interesting article by the artist, Mr. Henry Bacon, entitled "The Doves of the French Revolution," a most quaint contribution to historical knowledge. A charming feature is the long Christmas story by Sarah Orne Jowett, "The Christmas Guests," and a notable feature is the second paper of "the Longfellow literature" promised for this year—"An Old House," which describes the old Longfellow home in Portland, and is fully illustrated by drawings and photographs. A choice piece of biographical work is Mrs. Bolton's article in her "Successful Women" series about Miss Mary L. Booth, the editor of Harper's Bazar. The serials are excellent: "Homulus and Remus," by Charles R. Talbot, is high comedy, "Montezuma's Gold Mines," by Fred A. Ober, is romantic adventure, "A Young Prince of Commerce," by Selden R. Hoyking is a business boy's story, and "Howling Wolfs and His Brick-Pony" is a story of our modern Indians. Capt. John Smith, by Miss Guiney. Only $2.40 a year. D. LOTHROP & CO., Publishers.

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OUR NAVAL POLICY.—A LESSON FROM 1861. JAMES RUSSELL SOLEY, U.S. Navy.

THE DUCHARMES OF THE BASKATONGE. DUNCAN CAMPBELL SCOTT. A STORY.

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Martin Wentz, known throughout the country as the champion glass eater, is dying at his home in Pittsburgh. His disease is lacteration of the intestines and stomach, caused by the particles of glass swallowed during his exhibitions. His physicians found pieces of glass coming out through Wentz's stomach and skin.

SENDING ONTARIO OATS TO WINNIPEG.—What is described by a Winnipeg exchange as a new and altogether unlooked for departure has been taken by Mr. Stephen Nairn, the oatmeal miller, in that city. He is importing Ontario oats, which, he says, are cleaner than those brought to market by Manitoba farmers and can be delivered at the mill at about the same price.

MASSACRE OF MISSIONARIES.—The Propaganda at Rome has received letters from Catholic missionaries in Unganda, Africa, in which is related the story of a massacre of native Christians there. The writers say that King Mounga recently discovered a servant studying a catechism, and being greatly enraged, caused the massacre of 100 negro converts. Most of the victims were burned alive. Mounga, the missionaries say, vows that he will destroy all Christians in his kingdom.

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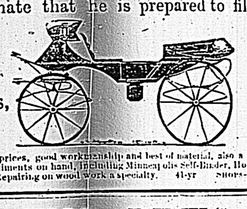

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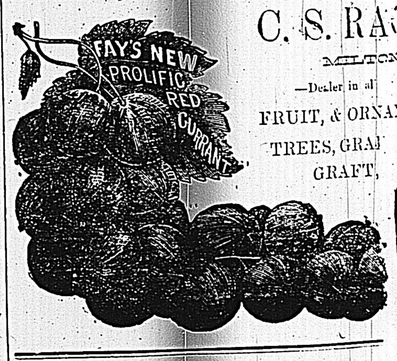

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